

THE JOHN ROBERTS COMPANY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The John Roberts Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota, is a commercial printer of annual reports, brochures, catalogues, calendars, limited edition art prints, posters, books, direct mail pieces, and promotional pieces. In 2000, John Roberts received the Minnesota Environmental Initiative Award for Environmental Policy. Since 1990, the company has implemented several environmental projects to reduce VOC emissions and toxics use. Their success was highlighted in EPA's Design for the Environment Case Study 1 on managing solvents and wipes.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

AT A GLANCE

Industry Sector:	Printing
Business:	Commercial lithographic printing
Facility Employees:	100-499
Accomplishments:	Reduced solid waste Reduced emissions of air toxics
2003 Commitments:	Reduce energy use Reduce water use Reduce solid waste Improve habitat
Address:	9687 East River Road Minneapolis, MN 55433
Web Site:	www.johnroberts.com

Past Accomplishments

John Roberts has demonstrated its commitment to environmental performance in the areas of solid waste recycling and reduction and by diminishing the risk of toxic releases. Since 1997, the facility has:

- **Reduced solid waste** by increasing recycling 42% through "dumpster diving" for recyclable materials and segregation of paper trim waste. From 1997 to 1999 the ratio of trash to recycled materials rose from 1:13.14 to 1:14.96.
- **Reduced emissions of air toxics** from 2,265 to 879 pounds, or 42%, by using cleaning solvents and wetting agents that contain less hazardous air pollutants.

Future Commitments

John Roberts also committed to continued environmental improvement through reducing energy use, water use, and total solid waste, and through improving habitat. By 2003, the facility will:

- **Reduce energy use** in the compressed air system by 37% through replacing two old compressors with a high efficiency unit. The delivery system for compressed air will be reviewed and changes made to minimize pressure leaks.
- **Reduce water use** for washing in the graphic arts film process by 67% through installing new "direct-to-plate" technology and removing film processing equipment.
- **Reduce solid waste** printing ink by 87% by recycling printing ink. The facility will implement new procedure for separating ink by color and working with its ink supplier to recycle ink in outside printing uses.
- **Improve habitat** by planting native grasses bordering 2 wetland areas on facility property. This will filter runoff from facility parking lots and access roads. The facility will also install bird and duck boxes at the wetlands.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The John Roberts Company keeps its employees well informed on environmental issues, mainly by using the Tracer newsletter and its environmental column. Community issues are addressed by an environmental contact person, and open houses are held periodically. Customers and other interested parties are informed through the JR Notes publication. The Performance Track Annual Performance Report will be available on their website, and additional environmental information can be found on the site's Environmental Page. John Roberts also voluntarily submits audit results to the state agency.